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Work and Workers.

PROFESSOR GEORGE S. GOODSPEED, of the University of Chicago, has returned from a year's leave of absence in Europe.

PROFESSOR ERNEST D. BURTON, of the University of Chicago, delivered the baccalaureate sermon at Wellesley College on June 19.

PROFESSOR B. W. BACON, of Yale, is spending his summer in Europe, where most of his time will be spent at the English universities.

THE commentary on *Isaiah xl-lxvi*, by Professor J. Skinner, D.D., has now been published, completing that book in the Cambridge Bible Series.

At the recent commencement of Smith College, Irving F. Wood was made a full professor of biblical literature, in recognition of the work which he has done in his department since his appointment.

REV. C. A. YOUNG is to give three months of biblical instruction during the coming winter at the University of Virginia. He will also organize the Biblical Department of the Chautauqua to be opened at Gordonsville, Va.

A NEW book by Rev. Arthur Wright, entitled *Some New Testament Problems* (Methuen, London), treats a number of important and interesting questions now under discussion in the field of New Testament, with wealth of scholarship and clearness of vision.

DR. E. J. GOODSPEED has been appointed Assistant in biblical and patristic Greek in the University of Chicago. Dr. Goodspeed has recently published in the *American Journal of Philology* a paper upon a bit of papyrus containing a mathematical figure and demonstration.

C. W. M. VAN DE VELDE, who died recently at Mentone, although noted for a large map of Java and much other cartographical work, was best known for his map of Palestine, which he undertook single-handed and at his own expense. The map was published in 1858, and so accurate was it that the Palestine Exploration Fund, notwithstanding its more minute work, found in it little to correct. At his death he was eighty years of age.

A NEW edition of Dr. C. H. H. Wright's *Introduction to the Old Testament* is issued by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, London. The new feature is the addition of a bibliographical appendix, noting the recent literature upon the subjects concerned. It is a small work, 227 pages, but is good for its size.

REV. H. E. THAYER, of Warren, Me., is in charge of the Department of Biblical Instruction at the Chautauqua Assembly at Fryeburgh. The work will be conducted along modern lines, and every effort will be made to introduce methods which are judged to give accurate and comprehensive views of the Bible.

THE Bible Normal College at Springfield, Mass., has been very successful in fitting its graduates for furnishing the best sort of biblical instruction. Thirteen of its recent graduates have already been appointed to important positions. The work which the college undertakes is hereafter to be specially devoted to college graduates, and its success is encouraging to all those who are interested in seeing trained men and women enter the field of Sunday school and similar church work.

OF Winer's *Grammatik des neutestamentlichen Sprachidioms* an entirely new and up-to-date revision, called the eighth edition, is going through the presses of Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, of Göttingen. The editor is Professor Paul Schmiedel, of the University of Zürich. The work is appearing in pamphlets, each costing one mark. The first chief part, treating of etymology, has been issued, and the second and more important part, devoted to syntax, has been begun. The subject of pronouns has been finished and that of nouns is fairly under way. Naturally it will be a much larger work than the grammar of Blass that appeared a year ago.

THAT grand thesaurus and depository of Protestant theological lore and research, the *Realencyklopaedie*, originally edited by Herzog and generally known by that name, is now being issued in a third and completely revised form under the editorial care of Professor Dr. Hauck, of Leipzig. It appears in the concern of Hinrichs of that city. It is issued in parts, ten parts completing a volume, each part, or *Heft*, costing one mark. Four volumes have been issued, covering all theological and biblical topics almost through the letter D. The contributors represent all the schools of German theology, extreme radicals from either side, it seems, not being represented. The object of this

magnificent work is to be a storehouse of what can be fairly called the achievements and results of the best Protestant scholarship of the Fatherland.

IN illustration of what is said upon another page, the following information from the *Standard* is opportune :

"The graded system of Sunday-school lessons in the Fifth Street Baptist Church, Lowell, Mass., Rev. H. W. O. Millington, pastor, has proved a great success. There are three departments : primary, junior, and senior. No scholar can pass to a higher grade except by examination and a certain percentage of questions answered. At a recent Sunday-school concert in this church the interesting programme was made up of selections from lessons in the three courses. The large audience was deeply impressed with the importance of careful study of the word of God."

CATHOLIC scholars take but modest part in the theological and biblical discussions of the times. Independent scholarship, probably owing to the power of traditionalism that controls even their scholastic researches, scarcely comes to the surface among their class. But there are exceptions to this, and good scholarship has been repeatedly shown in the *Biblische Studien*, a Catholic series of Bible studies edited by Professor Bardenhewer and published by Herder, in Freiburg. The latest issue of this series, Vol. III, Heft 1, is devoted entirely (104 pp.) to a discussion of the Mt. Zion problem, and a defense of the older and seemingly almost discarded view as to the identification of this historic mount. The whole is a noteworthy archæological discussion from the pen of Professor Dr. K. Rückert and is entitled *Die Lage des Berges Sion*.

AS AN illustration of how an active Sunday school can be brought in touch with newcomers to a great city, the following notice is not without interest : "Pastors and Parents, Attention! At this season of the year many young men and women leave the country for New York city for a course of study or to begin their business or professional careers. The Young Men's Bible Class, the Young Ladies' Class for Bible Study, the Young Ladies' Bible Class, a Class in the Greek New Testament, and the Young People's Society, of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, 4 to 8 West Forty-sixth street, New York (Rev. Wm. H. P. Faunce, D.D., pastor), desire to reach these young people, and, therefore, ask your aid. If you will send the name and address of any young man or woman you know to be in the city to the Young

Men's Class secretary, Robert A. Shaw, 4 West Forty-sixth street, one of the members of these classes will be very glad to call and invite them to visit the class and church."

WEIZSÄCKER'S German translation of the New Testament continues to be one of the most popular and valuable helps for Bible study that Germany has produced for decades. A new, the eighth, edition has just left the press of Mohr, of Freiburg and Leipzig. The first edition appeared in 1874. The merits of the translation consist chiefly in this that the rendering is based upon the closest exegetical study of the original and is aimed to be in language which the original writers would have used had they written in our tongues and in our times. If a really good translation is the best of commentaries, then Weizsäcker's is a thorough success, being almost equally useful to those who understand and to those who do not understand the Greek original. It is to be regretted that we do not have a similar work in English.

IN the *Expository Times* for July, Dr. Eberhard Nestle, of Ulm, calls attention to a very important movement in Germany looking toward the replacement of the Textus Receptus by the modern text of the New Testament. In Germany, as in England and America, the established Bible Societies continue to ignore the vital improvements made in the New Testament text and versions by the scholars of the past fifty years, by circulating the antiquated Textus Receptus, the Old German Version, and the King James' Version. This is due to some extent to financial considerations on the part of the Bible Societies, but perhaps still more to inertia. "The good is ever the enemy of the best." Progress is commonly hindered by the evil injunction to "let well enough alone." It is no justification for this course that the popular demand is mainly for the Authorized Version. That this is the fact is due partly to the comparative cheapness of the old version, and partly to the inertia of the people. But the business of Bible Societies, and of others who have the opportunity, is to instruct the people as to what is best in the matter of New Testament texts and versions, and to provide them at reasonable cost with what is best in these lines. Neither in Germany, England, nor America is this being done by the Bible Societies; they are retarding progress, and withholding good from the people.

To counteract this reprehensible work of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Germany, the Württembergian Bible Society of Stuttgart has lately published a Greek Testament with a critically revised text, as

nicely printed and to be sold as cheaply as the old reprints of the Foreign Society. The Greek text is based on a collation of the editions of Tischendorf, Westcott-Hort, and Weymouth. It gives on the margin all their differences, from Acts onward, also the readings in Weiss' new recension of the text. And it gives also, at the foot of the pages, a selection of manuscript readings, not to be found in the editions just mentioned, for the gospels and Acts, chiefly from the Codex Bezae. In so doing it places in the hands of the poorest student materials which were hitherto accessible only to those who were in possession of the larger critical editions. The outer margins contain all references to the Old Testament, and many parallel passages.

The Greek type from which this work is printed was expressly made for this work, and is as clear and large as is possible for a pocket edition. The work is published in various forms of binding and arrangement, with and without the revised German translation, from 25 cents upward. May its aim be attained quickly, for it is right and important.